Dear Reader,

_The cyclic rhythms associated with advances in technology remain the same, regardless of their place in the timeline of human history. Everything from telescopes to teleporters has been received by apathetic acknowledgement or vitriolic condemnation. The message is don't trifle with status quo; and yet time waits for no one.

In a decade or so, there will be a constellation of satellites girdling the Earth that enable wireless communication to speed around the equator and from pole to pole. Holograms, not flat screens, will represent visual media. This construct will drive everything from entertainment to education. Dentistry will benefit from virtual reality learning and virtual on-demand education accessible from our cars, phones, computers and offices, and we will interface with them verbally and intuitively, and they will respond with artificial intelligence.

And yet...

The majority of dental education today comes from an archaic model, moving attendees to presenters, not presenters to attendees. The attendees are not well prepared; they know of the presenters perhaps, but not the presenters themselves, nor have they discoursed with them in person or online, nor for the most part do they know the evidentiary basis of the information they share, nor are they even aware of the style of their delivery, which can be equally as important in what we learn.

The Roots Summit began as means of altering this landscape. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, dentists shared their hopes, dreams and most importantly knowledge and cases, and everyone learned. Once a year, they gathered to put a face to a name and determine their future path. As digital platforms exploded, Roots embraced them as well. Today, we have the Dental Tribune Study Club, Dental XP, gIDE and others encouraging the industry and the profession to raise the bar and bring education to everyone, faster, more efficiently and without borders.

I look forward to seeing you all in Barcelona, another star on the horizon of where we are all headed together at last.

Sincerely yours,

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